



KALIHI – PALAMA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 15

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006

KAPALAMA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Pro Tem Bernie Young called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m. without a quorum present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Akamine, Eric Purcell, Jesusa Ronne, Calvin Konno, Ken Harding, and Bernie Young.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Casey Sakai, Tracy Sakai, Jamie Harvest-Silva, and Shane Yaw.

GUESTS: John Dell, Darryn Ng, Karl Rhoads (Downtown Neighborhood Board No. 13 member), Dennis Galolo (Councilmember Cachola's staff); Capt. Terry Cano (Honolulu Fire Department – HFD); Major Randy Macadangdang, Lt. Lester Hite, Sgt. Somera, and Captain Grossi (Honolulu Police Department – HPD); Kawehi Yim and Kauai Hilo (Board of Water Supply); Senator Norman Sakamoto, Lorraine Robinson (TJ Mahoney & Associates), Ross Tsuekenjo (Senator Donna Mercado Kim's staff); Sandy Yahiro (Governor's Representative); James Burke and Sandra Abale from the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS); Pat Lee and Gary Omori (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor); Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission office staff).

DEFERRAL OF AGENDA ITEMS: Chair Young announced that agenda items requiring votes have to be deferred until there is the required quorum of 10 members present out of the total of 19 seats.

ELECTION TO FILL VACANCIES THREE VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 1, TWO VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 2 AND THREE VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 3 – Chair Young deferred the item due to the absence of a voting quorum.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS: (1) Area residents raised concerns regarding trash being strewn around Pua Lane. The trash is allegedly due to underage drinking in the area. Abandoned cars were also reported in this vicinity. (2) Member Ken Akamine raised concerns regarding trash in the area of Kam IV Road and School Street. (3) Karl Rhoads raised concerns regarding the shopping carts that people are leaving in Akepo Lane. (4) The Chair reported parking issues on the Kohou Street cul-de-sac and requested HPD presence in the area. (5) Kauai Hilo reported homeless people are living under the Olomea Street Bridge.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) – Sgt. Somera reported the statistics for the month of May: 0 homicides, 0 sex offense, 0 robbery, 2 burglary, 3 unauthorized entry into a motor vehicle UEMV's, 1 motor vehicle thefts, 1 assault, 15 MVC, 1 drug/narcotics, 0 family offenses, 88 arguments, 0 DUI, and 2 graffiti.

Sgt. Prios reported that there is a left arrow turn signal on Waikamilo and King that HPD is monitoring. He advised to please pay special attention to the turn signal and to drive with caution. He also encouraged everyone to tell their family, friends, and neighbors. Sgt. Prios also reported HPD marked 18 vehicles as abandoned on Auiki Street. The vehicles were being parked there by a towing company that is located in the area.

The Chair thanked HPD for their reports.

HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT (HFD) – Captain Cano reported the following statistics for the month of May: 5 structure fires, 5 brush, 4 rubbish, 7 vehicles 57 medical, 9 search and rescues, and 7 miscellaneous calls.

Capt. Cano reported that HFD will be using the news media for HFD's public service announcements (PSA). Using the media is a more effective method of delivering the message and it is also more cost effective.



Fire Safety Tip: Brush fire season is here, so remember to maintain a 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation. Recent rains may have overgrown vegetation in some breaks. With Independence Day around the corner, consider leaving fireworks to the professionals and enjoy one of the many fireworks displays around town. If you use fireworks, follow all warnings and instructions. Young children should never be given fireworks. Older children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult. Have a happy and safe Independence Day celebration!

The Chair thanked Capt. Cano for his report.

MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Keoki Miyamoto reported that DPR has trimmed the Kukui Nut Trees at Lo'i Kalo Park as a result of a request from last month's meeting of the Kalihi Palama Neighborhood Board.

BOARD RECESS: Chair Young declared a recess at 7:40 p.m. for refreshments; Chair Young reconvened the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 19, FEBRUARY 16, MARCH 16, APRIL 20, MAY 18, JUNE 15, JULY 20, AUGUST 17, SEPTEMBER 21, OCTOBER 19, NOVEMBER 16 2005, JANUARY 18, 2006, FEBRUARY 15, MARCH 15, APRIL 17, and MAY 17, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – Chair Young deferred the item due to lack of quorum.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, AND OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2005, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY and JUNE 2006 TREASURER'S REPORTS – Chair Young deferred the item due to lack of quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.

PRESENTATION:

HONOLULU HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT CORRIDOR– Pat Lee reported the following: The Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project is studying how to improve the ability of people to move in the highly congested east-west corridor between Kapolei and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Over sixty percent of Oahu's population currently lives within the area served by this corridor. This area is projected to continue to grow faster than the rest of Oahu.

A wide range of options for improving travel throughout the corridor are being evaluated against many criteria, including shortening travel times, project costs, environmental impacts, ease of implementation, support of the City and County of Honolulu's long-range land use plans, and community benefits.

The planning and project development process for the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project is based in part on requirements by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), because FTA funds will be used for this project. The project is currently in the planning phase. The purpose of this phase is to select a "Locally Preferred Alternative" (LPA) and complete a draft environmental impact statement (EIS). After this phase is completed, the City will request approval from FTA to begin the preliminary engineering phase on the LPA. Lee presented timelines and visuals, which included artist renderings of the proposed alternatives.

Some concerns were raised by the Board and area residents regarding the aesthetics of an above ground fixed guideway. Concerns were also raised regarding businesses that may be affected or lost due to the right of way acquisitions. Lee announced that there will be a series of scoping meetings at Kapolei Hale, Honolulu Hale, and Aliamanu Middle School to address these issues and encouraged the public to attend.

BUS STOP RELOCATION AND ROUTE MODIFICATION – James Burke and Sandra Abale from the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) reported the following:

DTS is discontinuing bus stops on King Street effective June 21, 2006. The City is realigning bus stop placement for safer streets and more efficient bus service. As a result, the bus stops throughout Oahu will be discontinued from service and many new safer bus stops will be established. Changes for the Kalihi area include:

North King Street town-bound before Owen Street, in front of Kalihi Shopping Center, before Waikamilo Road, across Wolter Lane, Before Kohou Street, across Peterson Lane, before Akepo Lane.
North King Street ewa-bound after Palama Street, before Peterson Lane, before Mao Lane and Richie's Drive-In, after Kama Lane, after Houghtailing Street, and across Kalihi Shopping Center.

In addition, there will be new bus stops located on North King and Kamenani Street and before Houghtailing Street.

The Chair thanked Burke and Abale for their presentation.

ELECTED OFFICIALS: Chair Young noted that elected officials are invited to participate based on the rule of three minutes per speaker (strictly enforced) and that a short written report is appreciated.

GOVERNOR'S REPRESENTATIVE – Sandy Yahiro from the State Department of Taxation (DOTax) distributed the Governor's report and highlighted the following – the status of your tax returns may be monitored on the DOTax's website. For more information please call DOTax at 587-4242 or toll free at 1800-222-3229 or email taxpayer.services@hawaii.gov.

COUNCILMEMBER ROMY CACHOLA – Dennis Galolo distributed Councilmember Cachola's monthly report and highlighted the following: (1) Galolo thanked the Kalihi Valley Business Association (KBA) for hosting the Sunset in Kalihi as well as all those who participated in making the event a success. (2) He also encouraged everyone to attend the transit meetings being held on June 24, June 26, and June 28 at Kapolei Hale, Mission Memorial, and Aliamanu Middle School respectively. (3) Councilmember Cachola awarded his scholarship this year to Shieryll Bolibol who will be attending St. Martin's University in Lacey Washington.

The Chair thanked Galolo for attending the meeting.

SENATOR GORDON TRIMBLE – No representative was present.

SENATOR SAKAMOTO – (1) Relative to the USS Arizona Visitor Center, cost for a new center is approximately \$38 million. The structure would be built in front of the existing facility. A joint nation wide fundraising is planned. The legislature has put in \$500,000 for this proposed project. (2) Money appropriated last year for school improvements and released by the Governor for this area are: a) Pearl Ridge Elementary cafeteria expansion - \$744,010. Total project cost will be \$950,000 and completion is expected to be in May 2007. The Governor released \$205,990 last May for the project design; reroofing \$169,000 and \$10,000; replacement of grease trap \$81,000. b) Aiea Elementary – Replacement of dumbwaiter \$35,000 and replacement of waterlines \$22,000. c) Aiea Intermediate – Electrical upgrade \$650,000 and replacement of vpac (air-conditioning unit) \$88,000. (3) There is an additional \$20 million for schools, none of which are in budget deficit. The Department of Education will decide how the funding would be distributed and potentially could act in July.

The Chair thanked Senator Sakamoto for his report.

SENATOR DONNA MERCADO KIM – Ross Tsuekenjo distributed the Senator's report and was available for questions.

The Chair thanked Tsuekenjo for attending the meeting.

SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND – Senator Chun Oakland distributed her report.

REPRESENTATIVE BEV HARBIN – No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE CORINNE CHING – No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN FINNEGAN: No representative was present.

REPRESENTATIVE JUN ABINSAY – No representative was present.

ADJOURNMENT: With no objections, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Joey Manahan, Neighborhood Commission Office staff